

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00429 152301Z

60

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IO-03 NSC-05 NSCE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 INR-05 EUR-08 PRS-01 /044 W

----- 023920

P R 151540Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4561

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL LUANDA

USUN NEW YORK 1005

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0429

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, ZA, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: ZAMBIAN COMMENTS

REF: LONDON 05637 ; CAPE TOWN 073

1. SINCE MARK CHONA HAS PRESUMABLY ALREADY INFORMED BRAND FOURIE OF REPORTED "GIVE" BEHIND TOUGH OAU RESOLUTION, THERE SEEMS LITTLE PURPOSE IN USG TRYING TO CONVEY SAME POINT TO SAG SIMPLY ON CHONA'S WORD. DESPITE CHONA'S ENERGETIC, SKILLFUL, AND UNDOUBTEDLY SINCERE DIPLOMACY, STRONG LANGUAGE IN OAU RESOLUTION MAKES IT APPEAR EITHER (A) THAT ZAMBIA WAS UNABLE GET OTHER OAU MEMBERS TO GO ALONG WITH ITS OWN MODERATE APPROACH AND NEGOTIATING STRATEGY, OR (B) THAT WE ARE AGAIN WITNESSING AFRICAN TACTIC OF COUNTERING RADICAL PUBLIC POSITIONS WITH PRIVATE ASSURANCES THAT THEY DO NOT REALLY MEAN WHAT THEY ARE SAYING IN PUBLIC. WHILE SAG HAS SHOWN INCREASING SOPHISTICATION ABOUT AFRICAN STATES' SEEMING NEED TO BE MORE CRITICAL IN PUBLIC THAN IN PRIVATE, VORSTER WOULD HAVE EVERY REASON TO BE WARY OF INTENT BEHIND OAU RESOLUTION UNLESS OTHER AFRICAN STATES BESIDES ZAMBIA WERE ALSO TO ASSURE HIM PRIVATELY THAT THEIR INTENT IS TO LEAVE NEGOTIATION

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DOOR OPEN. CHONA SHOULD REALIZE THIS IS NOT AN ASSURANCE USG

CAN CONVEY BUT ONE THAT MUST COME DIRECTLY FROM OTHER AFRICANS.

2. FOREGOING IS NOT TO IMPLY EMBASSY RELUCTANCE TO CONVEY THESE OR OTHER NEW IDEAS TO SAG BUT MERELY TO SUGGEST THAT IF DEPARTMENT WERE TO AGREE THAT WE SHOULD DO SO, IT WOULD BE BEST CLEARLY TO IDENTIFY SOURCE OF IDEAS (CHONA) AND SUGGEST THAT WE THINK SAG MAY FIND IT USEFUL TO MAINTAIN DISCOURSE WITH HIM AND OTHER AFRICAN CONTACTS ON NAMIBIA AS WELL AS RHODESIA. SUCH SUGGESTION WOULD BE ALONG ESSENTIALLY SAME LINES AS IN APPROACH PROPOSED BY CAPE TOWN 073 OF JANUARY 20. EDMONDSON

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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